

Preliminary Amendment  
Attorney Docket No. 053537

**REMARKS**

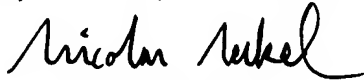
The above amendment to the claims has been made to eliminate multiple dependencies and place the application in better condition for examination.

Support for new claim 17 is found in original claim 1, support for new claims 18-26 is found in original claims 3-11, support for new claim 27 is found in original claim 2, support for new claims 28-36 is found in original claims 3-11, support for new claims 27-40 is found in original claims 12-15, support for new claims 41-42 is found in original claim 16.

If any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



Nicolas E. Seckel

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 44,373

Telephone: (202) 822-1100

Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

NES/mc